

REMARKS

1. Claim 139 is objected to because it separately recites "yellowtail" and "tuna" as different growth hormones, and the Examiner is of the opinion that yellowtail is a type of tuna.

The Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to Fig. 3 of the Watahiki paper. It lists separate sequences for "yGH" (yellowtail growth hormone) and "tGH" (tuna growth hormone).

Likewise, in the Harvey paper p. 6, tuna is said to belong to the suborder Scombroidei, and yellowtail to suborder Percoidei. (Both suborders belong to Order Perciformes, subclass Actinopterygii and Class Osteichthyes.)

It is respectfully urged that the separate recitation is proper.

2. The Examiner is thanked for clarification of the term "growth hormones" (claim 139). Like the Examiner, we do not read the term "growth hormone" as a reference to a naturally occurring prolactin or placental lactogen. The variants of the claims are expressly required to have "growth hormone receptor antagonist activity" (120, 139, 150) or "vertebrate growth hormone inhibitory activity" (107, 109, 110), which would exclude, e.g., human prolactin or human placental lactogen. Those of claim 139 are also required to have at least 80% identity to the native vertebrate growth hormone, which would be a further basis for excluding prolactins.

The reason for our remark on claim 139 in the last amendment was that there can be several forms of growth hormone in a single species, see page 12 of the last amendment. That is why we used the plural "hormones" in claim 139. It does not appear that the Examiner intends to limit us to variants of one form of, e.g., bovine growth hormone.

3. We have amended claims 159 and 160 to recite lists of

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amino acids, as suggested by the examiner (p. 4). The lists are based on the volume information at page 23.

Respectfully submitted,

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